

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 619.

This bill would require the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to establish an amnesty program to allow vehicle owners who have previously underreported the value or otherwise misrepresented vehicles for registration purposes to pay required fess and taxes, comply with all legal requirements, and to avoid criminal prosecution for their earlier false statements by December 31, 2010.

While I am signing this bill, there are provisions that need to be addressed before it can be successfully implemented. Specifically, this bill could result in significant workload for the Bureau of Automotive Repair's (BAR) Referee Program without ensuring adequate revenue to support this program. Statutory authority is required to charge a fee for that work. This cost must rightfully be borne by the vehicle owners who are participating in the program.

I am instructing the Department of Consumer Affairs and BAR to work with the author and the Legislature on making the necessary legislative change to properly implement this program.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger